WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of self-service ordering at a restaurant, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a kiosk at a first location in said restaurant, said kiosk comprising a touch-screen panel and a receiving means for receiving and transmitting information stored on a patron's payment instrument;

(b) operating at said touch-screen panel by a patron to order at least one item;

(c) totaling the charges for said at least one item ordered by said patron;

(d) inserting a patron's payment instrument into said receiving means on said kiosk;

(e) verifying the patron's account represented by said payment instrument and approving the information stored on the patron's payment instrument;

(f) debiting the patron's account in the amount of said totaled charges; and

(g) assembling said at least one item at a second location remote from said first location using order information

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collected on said touch-screen panel and delivering said item to the patron at a location remote from said first location at which said kiosk is located.

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2.   The method of claim 1, wherein said payment instrument is selected from the group consisting of a charge card, a credit card, a debit card, a gift card and a smart card.

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3.   The method of claim 1, wherein advertisements are displayed on said touch-screen panel of said kiosk.

15   4.   The method of claim 1, further comprising a step after step (f) of printing out a receipt wherein said receipt contains the total charge for the items ordered by said patron and a designated location.

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5. The method of claim 4, wherein a coupon is printed on said receipt.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said kiosk is located at a drive through location of said restaurant.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein said item is a food item, a toy, or a newspaper.

8. A method of self-service ordering at a restaurant, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a kiosk at a first location in said restaurant, said kiosk comprising a touch-screen panel and a receiving means for receiving and transmitting information stored on a patron's payment instrument;

(b) operating at said touch-screen panel by a patron to order at least one item;

(c)   suggesting to said patron additional items for sale that are appropriate to the items ordered by said patron, wherein said suggesting is delivered by a mean selected from the group consisting of a video display, an audio display and an audiovisual

5   display.

(d)   totaling the charges for said at least one item ordered by said patron;

(e)   inserting a patron's payment instrument into said receiving means on said kiosk;

10   (f)   verifying the patron's account represented by said payment instrument and approving the information stored on the patron's payment instrument;

(g)   debiting the patron's account in the amount of said totaled charges; and

15   (h)   assembling said at least one item at a second location remote from said first location using order information collected on said touch-screen panel and delivering said item to the patron at a location remote from said first location at which said kiosk is located.

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9.   The method of claim 8, wherein said payment instrument is selected from the group consisting of a charge card, a credit card, a debit card, a gift card and a smart card.

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10.   The method of claim 8, wherein advertisements are displayed on said touch-screen panel on said kiosk.

10   11.   The method of claim 8, further comprising a step after step (g) of printing out a receipt wherein said receipt contains the total charge for the items ordered by said patron and a designated location.

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12.   The method of claim 11, wherein a coupon is printed on said receipt.

20   13.   The method of claim 8, wherein said kiosk is located at a drive through location of said restaurant.

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14. The method of claim 8, wherein said item is a food item, a toy, or a newspaper.

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15. A method of self-service ordering at a restaurant, comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a kiosk at a first location in said restaurant, said kiosk comprising a touch-screen panel and a

10 receiving means for receiving and transmitting information stored on a patron's payment instrument;

(b) operating at said touch-screen panel by a patron to order at least one item, said operating comprising verbalizing the name of said item to said kiosk;

15 (c) totaling the charges for said at least one item ordered by said patron;

(d) inserting a patron's payment instrument into said receiving means on said kiosk;

(e) verifying the patron's account represented by said

20 payment instrument and approving the information stored on the patron's payment instrument;

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(f)   debiting the patron's account in the amount of said

totaled charges; and

(g)   assembling said at least one item at a second

location remote from said first location using order information

5   collected on said touch-screen panel and delivering said item to the

patron at a location remote from said first location at which said kiosk

is located.

10   16.   The method of claim 15, wherein said payment

instrument is selected from the group consisting of a charge card, a

credit card, a debit card, a gift card and a smart card.

15   17.   The method of claim 15, wherein advertisements

are displayed on said touch-screen panel on said kiosk.

18.   The method of claim 15, further comprising a step

20   after step (f) of printing out a receipt wherein said receipt contains

the total charge for the items ordered by said patron and a

designated location for receiving said patron's signature in accepting said charge on said patron's account.

5   19. The method of claim 18, wherein a coupon is printed on said receipt.

    20. The method of claim 15, wherein said kiosk is 10 located at a drive through location of said restaurant.

    21. The method of claim 15, wherein said item is a food item, a toy, or a newspaper.

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    22. A method of self-service ordering at a restaurant, comprising the steps of:

    (a) providing a kiosk at a first location in said 20 restaurant, said kiosk comprising a touch-screen panel and a

receiving means for receiving and transmitting information stored on a patron's payment instrument;

(b)   operating at said touch-screen panel by a patron to order at least one item;

5   (c)   totaling the charges for said at least one item ordered by said patron;

(d)   inserting a patron's payment instrument into said receiving means on said kiosk;

(e)   verifying the patron's account represented by said payment instrument and approving the information stored on the patron's payment instrument;

(f)   receiving said patron's electronic signature as an acceptance of said totaled charges for the food item ordered by said patron;

15   (g)   debiting the patron's account in the amount of said totaled charges; and

(h)   assembling said at least one item at a second location remote from said first location using order information collected on said touch-screen panel and delivering said item to the patron at a location remote from said first location at which said kiosk is located.

23. The method of claim 22, wherein said payment instrument is selected from the group consisting of a charge card, a credit card, a debit card, a gift card and a smart card.

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24. The method of claim 22, wherein advertisements are displayed on said touch-screen panel on said kiosk.

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25. The method of claim 2, wherein said kiosk is located at a drive through location of said restaurant.

15   26. A self-service ordering system capable of receiving electronic payment at a restaurant, the system comprising:

a kiosk displayed at a first location in said restaurant, said kiosk comprising a touch-screen panel upon which a patron can select and order at least one item;

20   means for communicating said patron's order to a second location remote from said first location in said restaurant, wherein

said item ordered by said patron is assembled at said second location; and

means on said kiosk for receiving and transmitting information stored on said patron's payment instrument for accessing said patron's account represented by said payment instrument and debiting said account the total charge for the item ordered by said patron.

27. The system of claim 26, wherein said payment instrument is selected from the group consisting of a charge card, a credit card, a debit card, a gift card and a smart card.

28. The system of claim 26, further comprising a means for generating a printed receipt wherein said receipt contains the total charge for the item ordered by said patron and a designated portion for receiving said patron's signature in accepting said charge on said patron's account.

29. The system of claim 28, wherein a coupon is printed on said receipt.

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30. The system of claim 26, further comprising a means for receiving said patron's electronic signature in accepting said total charge for the food item ordered by said patron.

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31. The system of claim 26, further comprising a means for transmitting and producing audio signals that provide audio information in assisting and directing a patron in the ordering process.

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32. The system of claim 26, further comprising a means for receiving and responding to order articulated and verbalized by said patron, said order comprising names of the food items ordered

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33. The method of claim 36, wherein said item is a food item, a toy, or a newspaper.